UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/563,315	01/04/2006	Takeshi Iwatsu	277510US6PCT	8351

22850 7590 08/07/2008

OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
1940 DUKE STREET
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314

EXAMINER	
SAFAIPOUR, BOBBAK	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2618	

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
08/07/2008	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

patentdocket@oblon.com
oblonpat@oblon.com
jgardner@oblon.com

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/563,315	IWATSU ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	BOBBAK SAFAIPOUR	2618	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *10 June 2008*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-21* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-3 and 5-21* is/are rejected.

7)☒ Claim(s) *4* is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *03/26/2008 and 06/10/2008*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

This Action is in response to Applicant's response filed on 4/30/2008. New claims 19-21 have been added. **Claims 1-21** are now pending in the present application.

Information Disclosure Statement

The information disclosure statement submitted on 03/26/2008 and 06/10/2008 have been considered by the Examiner and made of record in the application file.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection has been made.

Claim Objections

On line 2 of claim 19, replace "broadcaster" with --broadcast--.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham* **v.** *John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 1-3, 5-17, and 19-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Mackintosh et al (US Patent # 6,317,784 B1)** in view of **Song et al (US 2003/0211843)** and **in further view of Singh et al (US 2003/0171977; hereinafter Singh).**

Consider **claim 1**, Mackintosh et al disclose an information provision method comprising:

searching associated information from a database storing a plurality of associated information concerning an on-air program broadcasted by a broadcasting station (read as tracks of music) (col. 15, lines 13-36);

accepting an acquisition request for the associated information from a broadcast receiver to receive a broadcast signal for the program (col. 2, lines 40-58; col. 5, lines 38-51; col. 6, lines 5-20; figure 1; Program provider can provide to data server an identification of the broadcast materials that are being broadcast or others provided to user equipment. This data can be sent in real time as the broadcast materials are being broadcast or otherwise sent to user equipment or the data can be sent in advance of the delivery of the broadcast materials, wherein a schedule for the programming materials such that supplemental information associated with the broadcast materials can be coordinated with the broadcast materials.);

setting the associated information stored in the database in accordance with timing of accepting the acquisition request as transmitted information (col. 5, lines 38-51; col. 6, lines 40-45; col. 7, lines 23-30; figure 1)

when the on-air program changes to a next program, resetting the transmitted information as associated information of the next program for transmission (col. 5, lines 38-51; col. 6 line 56 to col. 7, line 7; When the data is provided by program provider in advance of the broadcast material, the data server can build a schedule for retrieval of the supplemental materials and their delivery to user equipment. The supplemental materials are provided to user equipment such that they can be presented to user equipment in coordination with the broadcast materials).

Mackintosh et al fail to specifically disclose assigning a service session ID to the broadcast receiver and a valid period for the service session ID, said service session ID assigned at each acquisition request to identify a current communication connection; performing an authentication process on the acquisition request based on the session ID; and transmitting the associated information to the broadcast receiver if the authentication process is successful.

In related art, Song et al disclose assigning a service session ID to the broadcast receiver (figures 2-5 and 12; paragraphs 13-15, 34-42; 48, 52, 66, and 70-71; read as a broadcast server system in which an authenticated broadcast server serves as a source of a broadcast service); performing an authentication process on the acquisition request based on the session ID (figures 2-5 and 12; paragraphs 13-15, 34-42; 48, 52, 66, and 70-71; read as performing user authentication by setting up a connection with the authentication server); and transmitting the associated information to the broadcast receiver if the authentication process is successful (figures 2-5 and 12; paragraphs 13-15, 34-42; 48, 52, 66, and 70-71; read as if the requested broadcast service is authorized, transmitting broadcast data).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the teachings of Song et al into the teachings of Mackintosh et al to be able to authenticate a desired broadcast service in order for the base station and the packet data serving node to set up a transmission path for the broadcast service.

Furthermore, in related art, Singh discloses a valid period for the service session ID, said service session ID assigned at each acquisition request to identify a current communication connection (figures 10, and 12-13, paragraphs 68-76; The system sessionizes the data for a given user. Because a user may be logged on to a site all day (or longer), it can be difficult to identify clearly delineated online sessions for the user. In order to sessionize the data, the system looks at data for a particular user for a given day and walks down all of the URLs the user clicked on, looking for inactivity greater than a given time in the timestamps. If there is inactivity greater than the predetermined time, the end of a session is marked. Once a session is identified, the system outputs a file with a session ID added.)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the teachings of Singh into the teachings of Mackintosh and Song in order to sessionize the data for a given user.

Consider **claim 8**, Mackintosh et al disclose an information provision apparatus characterized by comprising:

a database configured to store a plurality of associated information concerning an on-air program broadcasted by a broadcasting station (col. 2, lines 40-58; col. 5, lines 38-51; col. 6, lines 5-20; figure 1);

a searching unit configured to search the database for associated information concerning the on-air program broadcasted by the broadcasting station (col. 15, lines 13-36);

an acceptance unit configured to accept an acquisition request for the associated information from a broadcast receiver to receive a broadcast signal for the program (col. 2, lines 40-58; col. 5, lines 38-51; col. 6, lines 5-20; figure 1; Program provider can provide to data server an identification of the broadcast materials that are being broadcast or others provided to user equipment. This data can be sent in real time as the broadcast materials are being broadcast or otherwise sent to user equipment or the data can be sent in advance of the delivery of the broadcast materials, wherein a schedule for the programming materials such that supplemental information associated with the broadcast materials can be coordinated with the broadcast materials.);
a transmitter configured to read the associated information stored in the database synchronously with timing to accept the acquisition request by the acceptance unit as transmitted information and to transmit the associated information to the broadcast receiver (col. 5, lines 38-51; col. 6, lines 40-

45; col. 7, lines 23-30; The broadcast materials that are being broadcast can be sent in real time as the broadcast materials are being broadcast or in advance of the delivery of the broadcast materials); and

a resetting unit configured to reset the transmitted information which should be read from the database for transmission when the on-air program changes to a next program. (col. 5, lines 38-51; col. 6 line 56 to col. 7, line 7; When the data is provided by program provider in advance of the broadcast material, the data server can build a schedule for retrieval of the supplemental materials and their delivery to user equipment. The supplemental materials are provided to user equipment such that they can be presented to user equipment in coordination with the broadcast materials).

Mackintosh et al fail to specifically disclose an assignment unit configured to assign a service session ID to the broadcast receiver and a valid period for the service session ID, said service session ID assigned at each acquisition request to identify a current communication connection; an authentication unit configured to performing an authentication process on the acquisition request based on the session ID and provide an indication that the authentication process was successful or unsuccessful; and transmitting the associated information to the broadcast receiver if the authentication process is successful.

In related art, Song et al disclose an assignment unit configured to assign a service session ID to the broadcast receiver (figures 2-5 and 12; paragraphs 13-15, 34-42; 48, 52, 66, and 70-71; read as a broadcast server system in which an authenticated broadcast server serves as a source of a broadcast service); an authentication unit configured to performing an authentication process on the acquisition request based on the session ID and provide an indication that the authentication process was successful or unsuccessful (figures 2-5 and 12; paragraphs 13-15, 34-42; 48, 52, 66,

and 70-71; read as performing user authentication by setting up a connection with the authentication server); and transmitting the associated information to the broadcast receiver if the authentication process is successful (figures 2-5 and 12; paragraphs 13-15, 34-42; 48, 52, 66, and 70-71; read as if the requested broadcast service is authorized, transmitting broadcast data).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the teachings of Song et al into the teachings of Mackintosh et al to be able to authenticate a desired broadcast service in order for the base station and the packet data serving node to set up a transmission path for the broadcast service.

Furthermore, in related art, Singh discloses a valid period for the service session ID, said service session ID assigned at each acquisition request to identify a current communication connection (figures 10, and 12-13, paragraphs 68-76; The system sessionizes the data for a given user. Because a user may be logged on to a site all day (or longer), it can be difficult to identify clearly delineated online sessions for the user. In order to sessionize the data, the system looks at data for a particular user for a given day and walks down all of the URLs the user clicked on, looking for inactivity greater than a given time in the timestamps. If there is inactivity greater than the predetermined time, the end of a session is marked. Once a session is identified, the system outputs a file with a session ID added.)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the teachings of Singh into the teachings of Mackintosh and Song in order to sessionize the data for a given user.

Consider **claim 13**, Mackintosh et al disclose a computer readable medium encoded with computer executable instructions, wherein the instructions, when executed by a processor, cause the processor to perform a method comprising:

searching associated information from a database storing a plurality of associated information concerning an on-air program broadcasted by a broadcasting station (col. 2, lines 40-58; col. 5, lines 38-51; col. 6, lines 5-20; figure 1; col. 15, lines 13-36);

accepting an acquisition request for the associated information from a broadcast receiver to receive a broadcast signal for the program (col. 2, lines 40-58; col. 5, lines 38-51; col. 6, lines 5-20; figure 1; Program provider can provide to data server an identification of the broadcast materials that are being broadcast or others provided to user equipment. This data can be sent in real time as the broadcast materials are being broadcast or otherwise sent to user equipment or the data can be sent in advance of the delivery of the broadcast materials, wherein a schedule for the programming materials such that supplemental information associated with the broadcast materials can be coordinated with the broadcast materials.);

setting the associated information stored in the database with timing to accept the acquisition request as transmitted information (col. 5, lines 38-51; col. 6, lines 40-45; col. 7, lines 23-30);

when the on-air program changes to a next program, resetting the transmitted information as associated information of the next program for transmission (col. 5, lines 38-51; col. 6 line 56 to col. 7, line 7; When the data is provided by program provider in advance of the broadcast material, the data server can build a schedule for retrieval of the supplemental materials and their delivery to

user equipment. The supplemental materials are provided to user equipment such that they can be presented to user equipment in coordination with the broadcast materials).

Mackintosh et al fail to specifically disclose assigning a service session ID to the broadcast receiver and a valid period for the service session ID, said service session ID assigned at each acquisition request to identify a current communication connection; performing an authentication process on the acquisition request based on the session ID; and transmitting the associated information to the broadcast receiver if the authentication process is successful.

In related art, Song et al disclose assigning a service session ID to the broadcast receiver (figures 2-5 and 12; paragraphs 13-15, 34-42; 48, 52, 66, and 70-71; read as a broadcast server system in which an authenticated broadcast server serves as a source of a broadcast service); performing an authentication process on the acquisition request based on the session ID (figures 2-5 and 12; paragraphs 13-15, 34-42; 48, 52, 66, and 70-71; read as performing user authentication by setting up a connection with the authentication server); and transmitting the associated information to the broadcast receiver if the authentication process is successful (figures 2-5 and 12; paragraphs 13-15, 34-42; 48, 52, 66, and 70-71; read as if the requested broadcast service is authorized, transmitting broadcast data).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the teachings of Song et al into the teachings of Mackintosh et al to be able to authenticate a desired broadcast service in order for the base station and the packet data serving node to set up a transmission path for the broadcast service.

Furthermore, in related art, Singh discloses a valid period for the service session ID, said service session ID assigned at each acquisition request to identify a current communication

connection (figures 10, and 12-13, paragraphs 68-76; The system sessionizes the data for a given user. Because a user may be logged on to a site all day (or longer), it can be difficult to identify clearly delineated online sessions for the user. In order to sessionize the data, the system looks at data for a particular user for a given day and walks down all of the URLs the user clicked on, looking for inactivity greater than a given time in the timestamps. If there is inactivity greater than the predetermined time, the end of a session is marked. Once a session is identified, the system outputs a file with a session ID added.)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the teachings of Singh into the teachings of Mackintosh and Song in order to sessionize the data for a given user.

Consider **claim 2**, and **as applied to claim 1 above**, Mackintosh et al, as modified by Song et al and Singh, disclose the claimed invention wherein when the on-air program changes to a next program, the resetting removes the transmitted information until the program changes to the next program. (Mackintosh et al: col. 5, lines 38-51; col. 6, line 56 to col. 7, line 7)

Consider **claim 3**, and **as applied to claim 1 above**, Mackintosh et al, as modified by Song et al and Singh, disclose the claimed invention wherein the resetting changes the transmitted information until changeover to the next program to associated information concerning the next program. (Mackintosh et al: col. 5, lines 38-51; col. 6, line 56 to col. 7, line 7)

Consider **claim 5**, and **as applied to claim 1 above**, Mackintosh et al, as modified by Song et al and Singh, disclose the claimed invention wherein the associated information concerning a production which differs from the on-air program (read as image from an album cover) and is broadcast in the program is stored in the database (Mackintosh et al: col. 2, lines 40-58; col. 5, lines 38-51; col. 6, lines 5-20; col. 23, lines 7-25, figure 1; Program provider can provide to data server an identification of the broadcast materials that are being broadcast or others provided to user equipment. This data can be sent in real time as the broadcast materials are being broadcast or otherwise sent to user equipment or the data can be sent in advance of the delivery of the broadcast materials, wherein a schedule for the programming materials such that supplemental information associated with the broadcast materials can be coordinated with the broadcast materials.); and

the resetting changes the associated information transmitted at the transmitting to transmitted information concerning the new production when a next new production starts being broadcast (Mackintosh et al: col. 5, lines 38-51; col. 6 line 56 to col. 7, line 7).

Consider **claim 6**, and **as applied to claim 5 above,** Mackintosh et al, as modified by Song et al and Singh, disclose the claimed invention wherein when the on-air program changes to a next program, the resetting removes the transmitted information concerning the production which was transmitted at the transmitting until the program changes to the next program. (Mackintosh et al: col. 5, lines 38-51; col. 6 line 56 to col. 7, line 7, col. 23, lines 7-25)

Consider **claim 7**, and **as applied to claim 5 above**, Mackintosh et al, as modified by Song et al and Singh, disclose the claimed invention wherein the resetting changes the transmitted

information concerning the production transmitted until changeover to the next program to associated information concerning the new production. (Mackintosh et al: col. 5, lines 38-51; col. 6 line 56 to col. 7, line 7, col. 23, lines 7-25)

Consider **claim 9**, and **as applied to claim 8 above**, Mackintosh et al, as modified by Song et al and Singh, disclose the claimed invention wherein when the on-air program changes to a next program, the resetting unit removes the transmitted information until the program changes to the next program. (Mackintosh et al: col. 5, lines 38-51; col. 6 line 56 to col. 7, line 7, col. 23, lines 7-25)

Consider **claim 10**, and **as applied to claim 8 above**, Mackintosh et al, as modified by Song et al and Singh, disclose the claimed invention wherein the resetting unit is configured to change the transmitted information until changeover to the next program to associated information concerning the next program. (Mackintosh et al: col. 5, lines 38-51; col. 6 line 56 to col. 7, line 7, col. 23, lines 7-25)

Consider **claim 11**, and **as applied to claim 8 above**, Mackintosh et al, as modified by Song et al and Singh, disclose the claimed invention wherein the database is configured to store the associated information concerning a production which differs from the on-air program (read as image from an album cover) and is broadcast in the program Mackintosh et al: (col. 2, lines 40-58; col. 5, lines 38-51; col. 6, lines 5-20, col. 23, lines 7-25; figure 1; Program provider can provide to

data server an identification of the broadcast materials that are being broadcast or others provided to user equipment. This data can be sent in real time as the broadcast materials are being broadcast or otherwise sent to user equipment or the data can be sent in advance of the delivery of the broadcast materials, wherein a schedule for the programming materials such that supplemental information associated with the broadcast materials can be coordinated with the broadcast materials.); and

the resetting unit is configured to change the transmitted information to associated information concerning the new production when a next new production starts being broadcast. (Mackintosh et al: col. 5, lines 38-51; col. 6 line 56 to col. 7, line 7)

Consider **claim 12** , and **as applied to claim 8 above**, Mackintosh et al, as modified by Song et al and Singh, disclose the claimed invention wherein when the on-air program changes to a next program, the resetting unit removes the transmitted information concerning the production until the program changes to the next program. (Mackintosh et al: col. 5, lines 38-51; col. 6 line 56 to col. 7, line 7, col. 23, lines 7-25)

Consider **claim 14,** and **as applied to claim 13 above**, Mackintosh et al, as modified by Song et al and Singh, disclose the claimed invention wherein the on-air program changes to a next program, the resetting removes the transmitted information until the program changes to the next program. (Mackintosh et al: col. 5, lines 38-51; col. 6 line 56 to col. 7, line 7, col. 23, lines 7-25)

Consider **claim 15,** and **as applied to claim 13 above**, Mackintosh et al, as modified by Song et al and Singh, disclose the claimed invention wherein the resetting changes the transmitted information until changeover to the next program to associated information concerning the next program. (Mackintosh et al: col. 5, lines 38-51; col. 6 line 56 to col. 7, line 7, col. 23, lines 7-25)

Consider **claim 16,** and **as applied to claim 13 above**, Mackintosh et al, as modified by Song et al and Singh, disclose the claimed invention wherein the database stores the associated information concerning a production which differs from the on-air program and is broadcast in the program (Mackintosh et al: col. 2, lines 40-58; col. 5, lines 38-51; col. 6, lines 5-20; figure 1; Program provider can provide to data server an identification of the broadcast materials that are being broadcast or others provided to user equipment. This data can be sent in real time as the broadcast materials are being broadcast or otherwise sent to user equipment or the data can be sent in advance of the delivery of the broadcast materials, wherein a schedule for the programming materials such that supplemental information associated with the broadcast materials can be coordinated with the broadcast materials.); and

the resetting changes the transmitted information to associated information concerning the new production when a next new production starts being broadcast. (Mackintosh et al: col. 5, lines 38-51; col. 6 line 56 to col. 7, line 7, col. 23, lines 7-25)

Consider **claim 17,** and **as applied to claim 13 above**, Mackintosh et al, as modified by Song et al and Singh, disclose the claimed invention wherein when the on-air program changes to a next program, the resetting removes the transmitted information concerning the production which

was transmitted at the transmitting until the program changes to the next program. (Mackintosh et al: col. 5, lines 38-51; col. 6 line 56 to col. 7, line 7, col. 23, lines 7-25)

Consider **claim 19**, and **as applied to claim 1 above**, Mackintosh et al, as modified by Song et al and Singh, disclose the claimed invention wherein sending the session ID to the broadcast receiver with the valid period. (Song: paragraphs 34-42; Singh: figures 10, 12-13; paragraphs 68-76)

Consider **claim 20**, and **as applied to claim 19 above**, Mackintosh et al, as modified by Song et al and Singh, disclose the claimed invention wherein receiving the session ID with the valid period back from the broadcast receiver. (Song: paragraphs 34-42; Singh: figures 10, 12-13; paragraphs 68-76)

Consider **claim 21**, and **as applied to claim 20 above**, Mackintosh et al, as modified by Song et al and Singh, disclose the claimed invention wherein the performing an authentication process includes failing the authentication process if the valid period associated with the session ID received back from the broadcast receiver is exceeded. (Song: paragraphs 34-42; Singh: figures 10, 12-13; paragraphs 68-76)

Claim 18 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Mackintosh et al (US Patent # 6,317,784 B1)** in view of **Applicants Admitted Prior Art (hereinafter AAPA).**

Consider **claim 18**, Mackintosh et al disclose an information provision method comprising:

accepting an acquisition request for the associated information from a broadcast receiver receiving a broadcast signal to the content (col. 2, lines 40-58; col. 5, lines 38-51; col. 6, lines 5-20; figure 1; Program provider can provide to data server an identification of the broadcast materials that are being broadcast or others provided to user equipment. This data can be sent in real time as the broadcast materials are being broadcast or otherwise sent to user equipment or the data can be sent in advance of the delivery of the broadcast materials, wherein a schedule for the programming materials such that supplemental information associated with the broadcast materials can be coordinated with the broadcast materials.);

setting the associated information stored in the database in accordance with timing of accepting the acquisition request as transmitted information (col. 5, lines 38-51; col. 6, lines 40-45; col. 7, lines 23-30; figure 1);

transmitting the associated information to the broadcast receiver (col. 5, lines 38-51; col. 6, lines 40-45; col. 7, lines 23-30; figure 1; The broadcast materials that are being broadcast can be sent in real time as the broadcast materials are being broadcast or in advance of the delivery of the broadcast materials); and

resetting the transmitted information associated information of a next program for transmission when the on-air program changes to the next program (col. 5, lines 38-51; col. 6 line 56 to col. 7, line 7; When the data is provided by program provider in advance of the broadcast material, the data server can build a schedule for retrieval of the supplemental materials and their delivery to user equipment. The supplemental materials are provided to user equipment such that they can be presented to user equipment in coordination with the broadcast materials.).

Mackintosh fails to specifically disclose updating associated information concerning a content broadcasted by a broadcasting station after a content starts to be broadcast.

In related art, AAPA discloses updating associated information concerning a content broadcasted by a broadcasting station after a content starts to be broadcast. (Background Art: figure 20, SP14; page 5, lines 12-20; At step SPI4, the associated information provision server KS reads the musical composition information about musical composition B from the database. The musical composition information about musical composition A is currently scheduled to be provided. The associated information provision server KS updates the musical composition information about musical composition A to that about musical composition B.)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the teachings of AAPA into the teachings of Mackintosh to allow a user to listen to a program from the audio reproduction apparatus and acquire musical composition information from associated information provision servers.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 4 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Consider **4**, and **as applied to claim 1 above**, the best prior art of record found during the examination of the present application, **Mackintosh et al (US Patent # 6,317,784 B1)** and **Song et al (US 2003/0211843),** fail to specifically disclose, teach, or suggest an information provision method wherein at the accepting, a server to provide the associated information receives request

information which requests the associated information and a service session ID equivalent to a session ID associated with the associated information provision server transmitted from the broadcast receiver;

the associated information provision server performs an authentication process based on the service session ID and, when an authentication error occurs, transmits information indicating the authentication error and service identification information for identifying the associated information provision server to the broadcast receiver;

an authentication server receives authentication ticket issuance request information which requests to issue an authentication ticket for access to the associated information provision server as well as an authentication session ID equivalent to a session ID associated with the authentication server from the broadcast receiver;

the authentication server authenticates the authentication session ID, when granting an authentication, issues an authentication ticket, and transmits the issued authentication ticket to the broadcast receiver;

the associated information provision server receives the authentication ticket transmitted from the broadcast receiver and transmits the received authentication ticket to the authentication server;

the authentication server, when authenticating the received authentication ticket to be valid, transmits information indicating authentication permission to the associated information provision server;

the associated information provision server receives the information indicating authentication permission, issues a service session ID as a session ID associated with the broadcast receiver, and transmits the issued service session ID to the broadcast receiver;

at the transmitting, the associated information provision server receives request information to request the associated information as well as the service session ID from the broadcast receiver; and

the associated information provision server performs an authentication process using the service session ID and, when granting an authentication, transmits associated information corresponding to the request information to the broadcast receiver.

Conclusion

Any response to this Office Action should be **faxed to** (571) 273-8300 **or mailed to**:

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to

Customer Service Window
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Bobbak Safaipour whose telephone number is (571) 270-1092. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:00am to 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Lana Le can be reached on (571) 272-7891. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free) or 703-305-3028.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist/customer service whose telephone number is (571) 272-2600.

/Bobbak Safaipour/

Examiner, Art Unit 2618

July 31, 2008

/Matthew D. Anderson/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2618